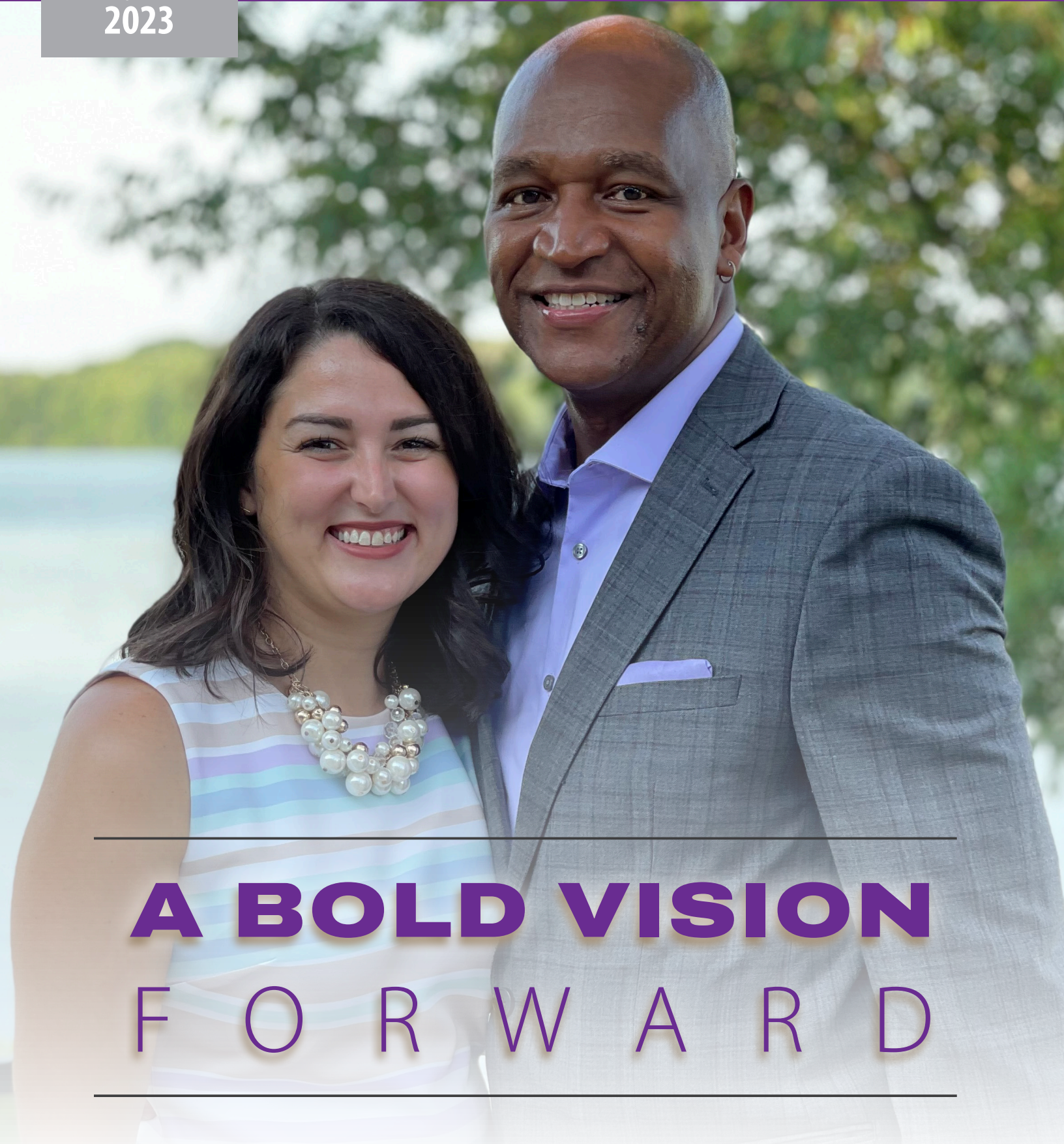


MOUNT UNION

MOUNT UNION MAGAZINE | MOUNTUNION.EDU/MAGAZINE | #MOUNTUNION

SPRING/SUMMER
2023



A BOLD VISION
F O R W A R D



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Get Social with #MountUnion



#BeExceptional

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Dear Friends,

I first want to sincerely thank those of you who took time out of your busy lives to celebrate this remarkable place during the Inauguration and Commencement festivities in May. Mount Union continues to thrive because of the constant support and care you lend to the University and our extraordinary students.

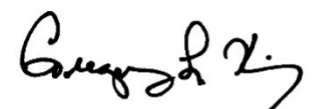
I would be remiss to not recognize those who got me to this point, as Mount Union was part of my family before I was even born. My father, Warren S. King '56, and uncle, Kenneth Toney Sr. '54, were both alumni of Mount Union. They were integral to paving the way for me and so many others in proving a Mount Union education is a possibility for individuals from all walks of life. My mother, Dorothy, provided me the love and constant support that was needed to keep me moving forward.

One of my biggest supporters, and one of the reasons I'm doing something I did not think was possible, is my wife Callie (Livengood '09) King. When you have someone in your life who encourages you, supports you, believes in you, lifts you up when you are down, and just brings out the best in you, that is a blessing that you can't put into words.

Looking ahead to the work that we must do, I believe that we will find success as an institution if we maintain our student-first mindset and approach. Everything we do as a university should be with the development of our young people in mind, including continuing to build and grow strong, relevant academic programs, develop partnerships with the city of Alliance and local entrepreneurs, and sustain our exceptional athletic success.

In our increasingly-diverse world, we must embrace our differences and be a place that opens its doors with respect and acceptance. I and so many of you reading this received the phenomenal experiences that come with being a Purple Raider. We need to ensure that everyone who gets the chance to have these opportunities of their own is doing so in a place they feel they can call home for a lifetime.

Mount Union is a special place thanks to our dedicated faculty, staff, and trustees; generous alumni and friends; and our amazing students. This institution has an incredible legacy, and many of you have rich stories to share about your incredible relationship with this university. Serving as its president is personally a dream fulfilled, and I am ready to do all I can to represent all of us lucky enough to be associated and affiliated with the University of Mount Union.





GREG KING '89 INAUGURATED AS THE 14TH PRESIDENT OF MOUNT UNION

In front of a crowd that featured students, faculty, staff, alumni, former institutional presidents, and community members, Gregory L. King '89 was inaugurated as the 14th president of Mount Union during a ceremony held on Friday, May 12.

"To our incredible students: none of this matters without you. You are the reason we do what we do. I am not in the business of making promises, but to you, I will

promise that the decisions we make moving forward will center around you, and how it makes your experience better," King said.

The day also featured a breakfast and luncheon for all campus community members, alumni, and friends in attendance. Read more about King and his Mount Union career, as well as his vision for Mount Union moving forward, on page 6.



ONLINE MASTER OF EDUCATION DEGREE RECOGNIZED FOR PRESTIGE IN ONLINE LEARNING

Mount Union is proud to have been tied as the number one private institution in Ohio for online master's in education (M.Ed.) programs by U.S. News and World Report.



M.Ed. Graduate and Alliance Early Learning School Principal Cory Muller '11, M'17

Mount Union's program was also ranked number five overall for all online master's in education programs in Ohio and moved up 56 spots in the national rankings, placing it in the top 22% of all online master's in education programs nationwide. The University was also the highest-ranking Northeast Ohio institution.

One of the M.Ed.'s courses, Foundations of Leadership, was also recognized with a national certification in online learning from Quality Matters.

"The M.Ed. program at Mount Union was the first fully online program at the University and has grown exponentially since its inception. We pride ourselves on developing strong relationships with our students in an environment that helps prepare them for leadership roles and responsibilities."

**-Dr. Mandy (Geddis '97) Capel
Professor and Director of Graduate Programs,
School of Education**

DR. JAMIE CAPUZZA '85 PUBLISHES NEW BOOK

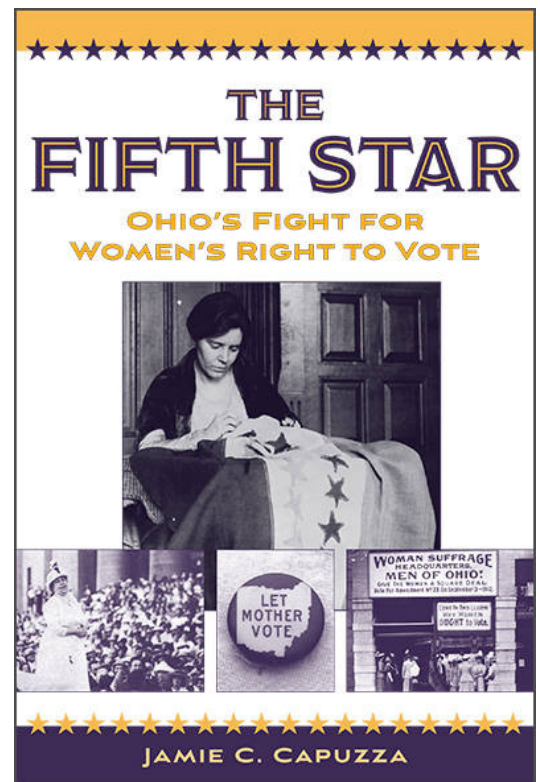
For more than three years, Dr. Jamie Capuzza '85 has been working on a new book, entitled "The Fifth Star" from Kent State University Press. The book explores how the women of Ohio were essential to the national women's suffrage movement and how the struggle for women's voting rights, in particular, required persistence in the face of defeat.



Dr. Jamie Capuzza

"I had books on suffrage in New York, Wyoming, Tennessee, and many other states but there was nothing from Ohio," said Capuzza. "I thought I simply hadn't reserved that book yet, but when I went to do so, there wasn't one. I knew then I had to devote my project to this topic so as to address this significant oversight."

The book is available for purchase at kentstateuniversity-press.com/2022/the-fifth-star/.



AGUINIGA, CLARK '07 NAMED VICE PRESIDENTS OF ADVANCEMENT, ENROLLMENT SERVICES

Two new vice presidential appointments were announced following the naming of Greg King '89 as president. **Logan Aguiniga**, director of planned giving, was named vice president for university advancement. **Caitlin Clark '07**, director of enrollment services, was named vice president for enrollment services.

Aguiniga joined the advancement team in 2017 and has more than 10 years of experience in annual giving, major gift fundraising, planned giving, campaign management, and donor relations.



Aguiniga

She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in public relations, advertising, and applied communication from Marietta College and a Master of Education degree in higher education administration from Kent State University. In this new role, she will oversee all aspects of our fundraising operation.

Clark was integral in leading the admission team to a strong new student class this past fall. She joined the Mount Union staff in 2013 and has also served in roles within the Office of the President and Office of Athletics.



Clark

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from Mount Union, a Master of Science degree in exercise science and health promotion from California University of Pennsylvania, and a Master of Education degree from Kent State University.



BLUECOATS AND MOUNT UNION ANNOUNCE SPRING TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

Bluecoats Drum and Bugle Corps and Mount Union announced the relocation of Bluecoats' annual Spring Training to the Mount Union campus. The six-week event, held each summer, is the pre-season training camp for the world-champion Bluecoats Drum & Bugle Corps. All 170 performers, and more than 50 instructors, designers, operations staff, and executive leadership utilized the campus for nearly six weeks.

The move to Northeast Ohio allowed Bluecoats to bring two other key programs back home and also allowed the organization to create a new hometown event that featured the worldwide debut of the 2023 Bluecoats alongside other Stark County performing arts programming.

The Blue Way Summer Arts Camp is an annual two-day summer camp for high school and college students eager to learn from the Bluecoats instructional team and spend two days living alongside the Bluecoats at Spring Training.

PURPLE RAIDERS HAVE HISTORIC SPRING SEASON

The Mount Union Purple Raiders concluded the Spring season impressively strong. In addition to senior **Kenadee Wayt '23** and the outdoor track and field team's historic performances at the NCAA Outdoor Championships (see page 14), softball won the Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) Tournament Championship and advanced to the NCAA Regional Championship game for the first time in school history.

Women's lacrosse won the OAC regular season crown and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament, and men's volleyball clinched a share of its first-ever Midwest Collegiate Volleyball League regular season title to name a few incredible performances by our student-athletes.

Other top individual performances include men's volleyball senior outside hitter **Cameron Ternent '23** earning the program's first All-America honor; the 4x400 Men's Relay team consisting of seniors **Matt McBride '23, Jared Storm '23, Tyler Gill '22, and Justin Knoch '23** won the event at the NCAAs with a national record. McBride anchored the victorious team coming back from being behind 20 meters for the dramatic finish.

Numerous other records and All-American and All-Region honorees were earned by Mount Union athletes this spring. Visit athletics.moun-tunion.edu for more recognitions and details on the upcoming fall season.

HUNT '23 NAMED OUTSTANDING SENIOR, PRICE NAMED GREAT TEACHER AT HONORS CONVOCATION

Haley Hunt '23, a nursing major of Kenton, Ohio, was named the 2023 Outstanding Senior.

Hunt is a member of, or holds a leadership position within, Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity, American Sign Language Club, Cru Bible Studies, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Habitat for Humanity, Relay for Life, Roundnet Club, Spiritual Life Leadership, Student Nursing Organization, and Student Senate.

She has participated in both the Wilderness and Social Responsibility trips as a trip leader, was Homecoming royalty and has served as a resident assistant and pre-view and orientation guide.

Dr. Andrew Price, professor of English and chair of the Department of Literature and Communication Arts, was named the Great Teacher for 2023.

Price has been a member of the Mount Union faculty since 1990. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from St. Anselm College, and Master of Arts and Doctoral degrees in English from the University of Notre Dame.

One student nominator said of Price, "I have had the privilege of taking four classes he has taught. In each course, I have felt challenged not only academically, but also personally as I considered my own values as well as the values of society."



Hunt



Price

A BOLD VISION FORWARD

Not fond of the limelight, Greg King '89 does not want this story to be about him. That might be one reason why he is well-suited and prepared to lead Mount Union to success as its 14th president.

Historically, presidential introductions in the Mount Union Magazine offer a chance for readers to get to know the incoming leader of the institution in which they take immense pride. These features have often included notes on their backgrounds, leadership styles, and why they chose Mount Union.

When it comes to discussing Greg King '89, that story is a bit different. Some shared classes with him, some spoke with him prior to a campus tour, and many call him a friend. He has spent his entire professional career dedicated to the success of Mount Union, yet it is his personal dedication and drive that have guided him in his selection as the next president of this storied institution.

A Purple Raider Legacy

Nearly seven decades before he would don the presidential medallion at his inauguration, Greg's

late father, Warren S. King, Sr. '56, and uncle, Kenneth Toney, Sr. '54, both earned their degrees from Mount Union. This further exemplified the ideals Mount Union was founded upon in 1846, with Orville Nelson Hartshorn declaring that the institution would be a place "where men and women could be educated with equal opportunity...and there would be no distinction due to race, color, sex, or position."

"It's important for me to recognize how significant my father and uncle were in paving the way to show me that not only was a college education possible, but a Mount Union education was possible," Greg says.

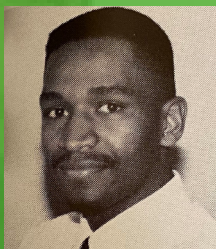
Greg came to Mount Union in the mid-1980s with hoop dreams in mind. Upon realizing he was not going to continue his basketball career collegiately, the Bedford, Ohio native still found a home in Alliance and friends he would have



TIMELINE OF A PRESIDENCY – GREG KING AT MOUNT UNION

1991

Named Mount Union's first director of minority affairs, working with underrepresented student populations.



2001

Director of major gifts position created, with Greg taking the helm of fundraising lead gifts of \$50,000 or more.



2021

To offer stability resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, Greg took over as interim vice president for enrollment services, with enrollment seeing a 12% increase the following year.



2023

Named the 14th president of Mount Union and inaugurated on May 12, presenting degrees to the Class of 2023 the following day.



1989

Graduates from Mount Union and becomes the institution's first Wayne Manzilla Diversity Intern.



1993

Promoted to director of admissions – six of eight recruitment cycles would see record classes for Mount Union during his eight-year run.



2008

Promoted to vice president for university advancement, where he would help grow the endowment to \$150 million.



2022

The *Inspiring Minds, Transforming Lives* comprehensive campaign concludes. During Greg's tenure as VP for advancement, more than \$164 million is raised through campaign gifts.



for life. He also received impactful experiences that are echoed by many student leaders throughout Mount Union's history. This included working retail at the local Trap's Sports Center, interning in the Sales Department of the Cleveland Cavaliers, being a member of the Black Student Union, and supervising dorm receptionists at Mount Union, all instilling skills that Greg would carry throughout his career.

After earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration and sport management in 1989, Greg became the first intern of the Wayne Manzilla Diversity Internship Program, which remains a successful signature Mount Union program today. Brick-by-brick, Greg was laying a foundation on which a long and influential career was soon to be built.

Steadfast Service

Working at the same place for 34 years, one can wear several different occupational hats. Greg could open his own Lids franchise in the University Store based on his roles at Mount Union.

During his time as an intern, Greg transitioned from the role of student to employee as an admission counselor. Soon thereafter, Greg tackled every role he was given with confident resolve, leading to a steady rise through the ranks. He was named the institution's first director of minority affairs in 1991 and an assistant director of admissions in 1992, working in both positions simultaneously until he was named director of admissions in 1993, all before turning 26 years old.

"In a short period of time, Greg King has earned the respect of those who have come in contact with him, and he serves as an excellent role model for our students," said then-President Harold Kolenbrander (1985-2000) in a July 1991 press release announcing Greg's appointment as director of minority affairs.

As a young professional leading a team of counselors and staff, Mount Union had record recruitment classes in six of the eight years he served as director of admissions. As a result, he was garnering attention from other institutions and was offered a job as director of development elsewhere. Former President Jack Ewing (2000-2005) was made aware and did not want to let Greg leave, so the position of director of major gifts was created with Greg soon at its helm. This began his 22-year journey in advancement, ascending to the rank of vice president for advancement in 2008 and leading three fundraising campaigns that totaled more than \$164 million raised for Mount Union and its students.

"The incredible generosity of our alumni and friends continues to



Andrew Boothe '90, (left) associate diversity officer at Mount Union, and Greg King '89 have been friends and colleagues at Mount Union for more than 30 years. The two are pictured above with Darrin "Todd" Redus '88 (second to left) and Trey Lewis (right) at the M Club Golf Outing in 1999. Boothe and King are pictured below at King's Inauguration Luncheon in May.



amaze me with every person I meet and every conversation I have," Greg says. "Whether offering their time, talent, or treasure, the Mount Union community supports every generation of Purple Raiders like they are members of their own family."

After COVID-19 created some tumult in higher education admissions, Mount Union was not exempt from the struggle. Taking his admission experience and ability to balance two positions at once as a proven leader, Greg was named interim vice president for enrollment services and helped increase enrollment by 12% in one year. According to Matt Darrah '84, chair of the Mount Union Board of Trustees, working in nearly every corner of campus made Greg "uniquely qualified" for his next career step – leading the place he has devoted his life and career to strengthening.

Setting the Stage

In his inaugural address, Greg stated that he has, "an irrational, crazy, obsessed, off-the-charts, ridiculous love for this university and what it can become." That passion for Mount Union and its ever-growing community is the driving force behind the 14th president's goal



"I love this place. This amazing university has given me almost everything that is important to me. My wife, my best friends, a formal education, a good life, and a long career."

– Greg King '89
University President





PRESIDENT KING'S VISION FOR MOUNT UNION:

Become the premier comprehensive, small, private university in the region

- Maintaining a student-first mindset
- Continuing to build and grow strong, in-demand academic programs
- Celebrating excellence in athletics
- Embracing our increasingly diverse world
- Bolstering partnerships within Alliance and surrounding communities

of becoming the premier small private comprehensive university in the region. But how does Mount Union get there? According to Greg, that starts by being bold, strong, and selfless as a Purple Raider community.

Maintaining a student-first mindset is Greg's top priority as president, which includes embracing the increasingly-diverse college-bound population across the country. That notion is followed closely by the continued growth of strong academic programs prospective students are seeking as well as leaning into the University's incredible athletic success rather than away from it.

The importance of building and fortifying partnerships within Alliance is also important to Greg, who

has happily called the Carnation City home for more than three decades.

"I love this place. This amazing university has given me almost everything that is important to me. My wife [Callie Livengood '09], my best friends, a formal education, a good life, and a long career," Greg says. "Mount Union and Alliance matter to me."

The story of legacies is not unique to Greg or Mount Union. Yet few fathers could only imagine their sons presiding over their alma maters as anything other than a dream. Greg has several times said that being named president of Mount Union is the "honor of a lifetime." With the right vision, execution, support, and a little bit of luck, the honor will hopefully be Mount Union's.



Super Bisono Bros.

It was always a goal of brothers **John '20, M'23** and **Matt '21, M'23 Bisono** to attend college together. That dream was fulfilled when the two transferred to the University of Mount Union during their undergraduate careers. As they near completion of graduate degrees from their alma mater, their care and drive for their fields of study and each other is propelling them to achieve their ambitions.

Originally from Long Island, New York, the Bisonos' journey to Mount Union was not linear. After moving to Cincinnati, Ohio and graduating from Deer Park High School, John played football at Fairmont State University in West Virginia and Matt played lacrosse at Tompkins Cortland Community College in Dryden, New York. When Mount Union came up on John's radar for football, he noticed that the lacrosse program could be a great fit for Matt, reuniting the brothers and driving their success.

"I always strive for greatness when I'm with my brother," John said. "I knew we would keep that up if we were

able to attend college together, and Mount Union just made sense for us."

After transferring to Mount Union, the Bisonos began to make their marks on the field. John earned All-OAC honorable mention honors in 2021 as an offensive lineman, and Matt scored 33 goals and was a three-time letter winner on the lacrosse team. While successful on the field, the brothers also continued to excel in the classroom.

After John earned a bachelor's degree in sport business and Matt one in integrated media, the brothers wanted to pursue their master's degrees. With their undergraduate experiences lining up with Mount Union's graduate offerings, it made sense for their Purple Raider careers to continue.

An area manager at Amazon, John wrapped up the Master of Business Administration degree program in leadership and innovation. Though the program is fully-online, he appreciated the interactions with faculty and the application of classroom knowledge to his daily work.

"There has not been a time during undergrad or my time in the MBA where I was not able to reach out to my professors with questions at any time," John said. "Plus, every assignment I have had can directly apply to my work at Amazon. The MBA program has primed my leadership style and made me more grounded and aware as a mentor and leader."

"John has been an outstanding student in the MBA program. He has transferred his experience from the football field and demonstrated teamwork and work ethic that will continue to build his leadership skills in the future," said Dr. Wendy Ziems-Mueller, director of Mount Union's MBA program.

Matt is also immediately employing techniques from his program into his day-to-day work. As he completed his Master of Education degree in athletic coaching, he spent two years as an assistant coach for Mount Union's men's lacrosse team.

"It's a blessing to get the chance to see the culture of a team you played

"I always strive for greatness when I'm with my brother. I knew we would keep that up if we were able to attend college together, and Mount Union just made sense for us."

- John Bisono '20, M'23



on develop, and I'm constantly learning valuable things from the program that impact my coaching," Matt said.

"During Matt's time in our athletic coaching program, he stood out as a truly impactful student and coach," said Dr. Mandy (Geddis '98) Capel, director of Mount Union's Master of Education program. "Matt demonstrated an exceptional level of commitment to both his personal growth and the development of his team. His dedication to learning and improvement is a testament to his success not only in the classroom, but also as an assistant lacrosse coach at Mount Union."

With the brothers earning their second degrees from Mount Union, their career paths are in sight. Though John is currently making his way through the ranks at Amazon, he hopes to one day be his own boss as a consultant for small businesses to aid in their logistics and processing. Matt has made an impact in the collegiate world but hopes his career will reflect his M.Ed. capstone project in helping youth athletes in their academic development, while pursuing a career in coaching.

Not all siblings get to achieve their dreams while sharing a college experience, and the Bisonos are grateful for their collective Mount Union journey and the individuals who have helped along the way.

"There are so many people – friends, family, professors – who have been part of our success, and they deserve a big thank you," John said.

Matt has always considered his older brother a role model who keeps him grounded. John appreciates the resilient creativity of Matt, pushing him to think differently while leading. While both are ready to make an impact in important careers, their academic and athletic achievements remain impressive. Yet most notable to the Bisonos is that they have been able to reach their goals and realize their dreams at Mount Union, together.



"It's a blessing to get the chance to see the culture of a team you played on develop, and I'm constantly learning valuable things from the program that impact my coaching"

- Matt Bisono '21, M'23

Legacy in *WAYT*-ing



*Success runs in the family
for Mount Union champions
Heather (O'Shea '96) and
Kenadee Wayt '23*

Kenadee Wayt '23 loves her mom. She also can't wait to knock her mom, Heather (O'Shea '96) Wayt, out of the Mount Union history books.

In fact, Kenadee could not help but smile when she said that she wanted to "have someone take a video pulling my mom's name off the wall" if she broke her mother's nearly 30-year-old 800-meter record. If that happens, it would be another recognition added to one of the most decorated track careers in Mount Union history.

Making It to Mount

Kenadee's collegiate track success almost did not happen, and she almost didn't come to Mount Union. With her mother being a three-time national champion athlete and member of the M Club Hall of Fame, it would be tough to fault her reasoning in initially avoiding the University.

"I was against Mount Union at first because I didn't want to go where my mom went, and I wasn't sure if I even wanted to run in college at all," Kenadee said.

Heather obviously had her own hopes about Kenadee's college endeavors but wanted to make sure Kenadee found the correct fit for her future, resigning herself to the idea that Mount Union was not in the cards.

Enter Eric Belancic '07, head track coach of Wheeling Central Catholic High School. His presence in the Wayt family's athletic story brings everything "full circle," according to Heather. Belancic was coached by Heather at Wheeling CC, where his high jump success led him to an All-American career at Mount Union. As fate would have it, Belancic returned to Wheeling CC, where he coached Kenadee, nudging her to at least visit Mount Union. That was all it took for the younger Wayt to build her own Purple Raider legacy.

An Illustrious Career

Calling Kenadee's track accomplishments impressive would almost feel like a disservice. She is a 15-time All-American, 16-time OAC Champion and 21-time All-OAC recipient, and she holds 10 Mount Union track records. Despite that acclaim, a national championship remained elusive. That is, until March 11, 2023, when she took home the title in the 200-meter with a time of 24.31 seconds, besting her own school record in the process. After the win, she shared an emotional moment with her mom, still in disbelief of her victory.

"I just remember hugging her, crying and saying things like 'I can't believe I won' and 'Did that really just happen?'" Kenadee said.



Eric Belancic '07 (left) stands with Kenadee after coaching her at a high school meet.

With a delay between Kenadee's heat and the final heat to determine the champion, Heather also struggled with impatient composure like many parents of athletes. "I was kind of sick to my stomach while we waited," she said. "I actually turned around to the wall and had Kenadee's boyfriend tell me what was happening because I just couldn't watch, but I was so happy when we found out that she had won."

It did not take long for Kenadee to have an encore on the track. During the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in May, she became the first Mount Union woman in history to win multiple individual national championships in the same meet in taking home the 200-meter and 400-meter titles. As

a result, she was named the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Athlete of the Year for 2023. With a few more seasons of post-pandemic eligibility available to her, Wayt's passion and competitive spirit will not let her rest on her laurels. She has more accolades in sight, namely her mother's 800-meter record, something she has already been within seconds of beating.

Post-Track Goals

Track is not the only family business for the Wayts. Heather is currently a family physician in their hometown of Wheeling, West Virginia, with her daughters following closely behind in the allied health field.

Kenadee, a biology graduate, became only the second Mount Union woman in history to earn the prestigious NCAA Elite 90 award, which is presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative GPA participating at the finals site for each of the NCAA's 90 championships. Her next step is to earn her Master of Science degree in physician assistant studies from Mount Union. Her twin sister, Ireland, will attend medical school after graduating from High Point University in North Carolina this spring. Heather takes pride in Kenadee's dedication on the track and in the classroom, while Kenadee remains grateful for her mom's support.

"She's loving, stern, and can be a little intense," Kenadee said through a laugh about her mom. "But whether we're training or just talking, it's nice to have her by my side through everything."

It is safe to say that the Wayt family is fast. While they have, and continue to sprint past everyone on the track, they are making sure to slow down and recognize the elite success they have achieved one step at a time.

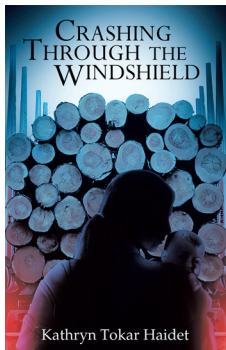
CLASS NOTES

Class Notes to be included in the Fall/Winter 2023 Issue of *Mount Union Magazine* must be received before October 31, 2023.

Material for Class Notes is obtained online or through news passed along from alumni to the offices of Alumni Engagement, Advancement, and The Mount Union Fund. Notices sent by the Post Office are not printed in Class Notes. You may also submit your class note via email at alumni@mountunion.edu or the form found at mountunion.edu/alumni.

1970s

Kathryn (Tokar '75) Haidet published her first novel, *Crashing Through the Windshield*, in December 2022. It is available on Amazon and on her publisher's website. For more information, visit kathryntokarhaidet.com.



Philip Kiko '73 joined Williams & Jensen PLLC law firm in Washington, DC as principal while continuing to be founder and CEO of Kiko Strategies Inc.

1980s

Jeff Meshey '80 has been named a Phoenix Titan 100. The Titan 100 is a national program that recognizes the top 100 CEOs and C-level executives in a region. Representing both the private and public sectors, these titans of industry demonstrate exceptional leadership, vision, passion, and influence in their field.



Meshey is president and CEO at Desert Financial Credit Union in Arizona.

1990s

On March 3, 2023, **Jason Lindsey '98**, **Sean DeFavero '98**, and **Brent Barr '98** all traveled to Fort Sill, Oklahoma to attend the retirement ceremony of **Curran Chidester '98**. Chidester will officially retire later this summer with 24.5 years of active-duty service with the U.S. Army.



Todd Strebel '92 is an Elyria Sports Hall of Fame trustee as well as the Mathematics Department chair for Steele High School in Amherst, Ohio. Todd and his wife, Kelly, will be celebrating their 30th anniversary this summer. Their daughter, Meghan, is a registered nurse and their son, Tyler, is a police officer.



2000s

Aimee (Rankin '05) Zundel has announced the launch of her solo law practice in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania - Zundel Law, LLC, which provides comprehensive education law solutions for clients. More information can be found on the firm's website: zundellawpgh.com.

2010s

Elizabeth (Hord '11) Bosl and announce the birth of a daughter, Gryffin Sylvia, on December 6, 2022.

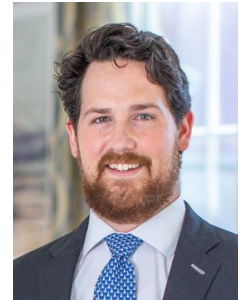


Karley (Sullivan '16) Crouch and spouse announce the birth of a son, Cohen John Karl, on December 23, 2022.

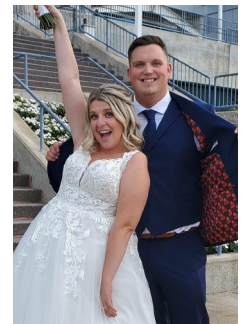


Ulmer and Berne LLP announced that **Gregory Djordjevic '13**, an associate in the firm's Cleveland office, has joined the Achievement Centers for Children Associate Board.

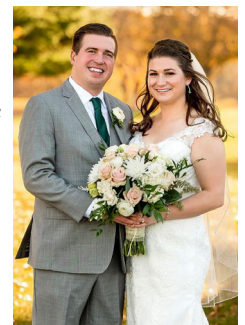
Achievement Centers for Children is a Cleveland nonprofit whose mission is to empower children and adults with disabilities and their families to achieve their greatest potential. In his role with the Associate Board, Djordjevic will support the Achievement Centers through philanthropic and volunteer activities.



Jordan Martin '19 and **Dylan Gardner '19** were married.



Amanda Wise '15 and **Daniel Goswick '15** were married on October 29, 2022. The couple resides in Columbus, Ohio.



Kaley (Smitley '10) and **Jonathan Harris** announce the birth of a daughter, Emily Eileen, on February 25, 2023.



Jenna (Williams '14) and David '14 Loxterman announce the birth of a daughter, Norah, on January 13, 2023. She joins sister, Quinn, 2.



After graduating, **Anna Miller '10** taught English in France. On return, she had a goal to eventually live and work in London, England. In March of 2022, Anna was hired as an eRetail account director with Publicis Media, working in the London office. Partnering with media owners like Google, Amazon, and CitrusAd, Anna is managing several large clients like Nestle, Electrolux, and Snapfish.



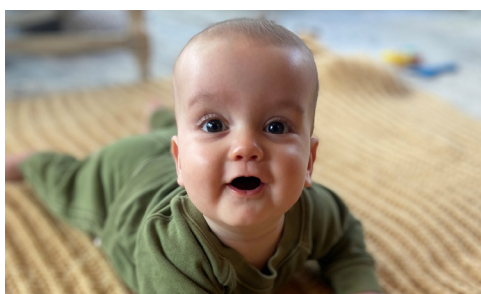
Nancy (Osborne '15) and Tylor '15 Rockwell announce the birth of a son, Niko Lee, on November 24, 2022.



Kyle Roberts '15 was named the director for sports medicine at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center in December 2022.



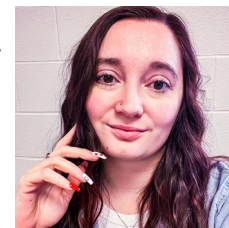
Eva (Laino '15) and Andrew '15 Rothermel announce the birth of a son, Callum Oliver, on April 30, 2022.



Annie (Cotton '13) and Brian Schultz announce the birth of a daughter, Charlotte "Charlie" Morgan, on January 31, 2023.



Kayla (Moore '18) Wilt earned a master's degree in higher education with a focus in student affairs in June 2023.



2020s

Kaitlyn Murphy '21 and Ethan McComb '20 were married on June 26, 2021, at Mount Ida Farm in Charlottesville, Virginia. Ethan was a member of the 2017 National Championship football team and Kaitlyn was a member of the six-time OAC Championship women's lacrosse team. The couple resides in Maryland.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MESSAGE

What an honor to experience and take part in the Inauguration of our new president, Greg King '89. The day was full of energy. President King's enthusiasm for Mount Union, his vision, and experience left you feeling secure that our University

is in the best hands possible and on track to success. You could feel the excitement radiate off everyone who attended this prestigious event. The energy gave you the feeling that anything is possible, that growth can and will happen, and YOU can be a part of it.

How will YOU use your gifts to help our University? And I'm not just talking about monetary gifts. (Although I will also give the plug that anything you can do to help our students succeed through scholarships and rescue funds is much needed!) The gifts you possess may have been due to the amazing education and experiences at Mount Union.

I hope, over the summer, you will consider becoming more involved in the University in hopes that you can give back in some way. We'd love for you to connect with more of the over 19,000 alumni all over the world. There are so many of us, and if just a fraction of us would inspire a future student to attend Mount with your stories of your college days, host an alumni gathering, or attend a campus event, imagine the impact we could have for our very own Purple Raider Family.



Finally, September 29-October 1 is not too far away. I can't wait to welcome you back 'home' for Mount Union's Alumni Weekend, Homecoming, and Family Day!

Go Raiders!
- **Jen (Thurin '03) Slack**
Alumni Association President

SAVE THE DATE!



40th Annual
Run-A-MUC 5K



MUcaw FunZone

SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 1

Alumni Weekend, Homecoming, and Family Day

Details and registration will be
made available at:
[mountunion.edu/
homecoming](http://mountunion.edu/homecoming)



Academic, athletic, and
milestone year reunions

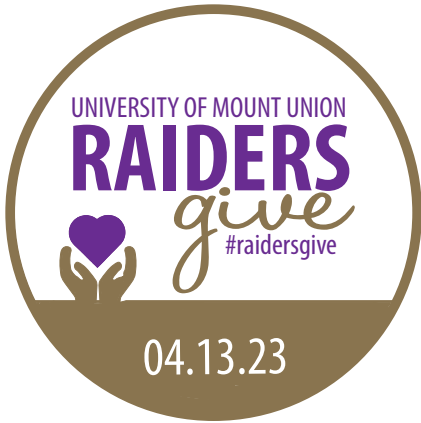


And much more!

Class of 1973 Celebrates 50 Years

Front row (l-r): Cheryl Boots, Jean (Couchie) Burnquist, Jean (Uhrig) Richards, Pam (Richards) Kimble, Vonnie (Veltri) Clement, Elaine (Evans) Byrd, Jeannie (Fizet) Dieffenbaugher, Bill Demsky, Libbie (Stacey) Romigh, Adriann (Zizes) Thornberry, Debby (Betz) Wolpert, Bob Atkinson, Jean (Neidhart) Hood, Karen (Dawson) Bradley; second row: Jeff Hahn, Jan Ossler, Pamela (Harner) Osborn, Sharla (Bowers) Johnston, Anne (Evans) Payling, Gwen (Rowland) Hunter, Gary Weldon, Terry Romigh, Jim Kimble, Jeff Thornberry, Rob Malone, Douglas Tarr, Jim Bieri; back row: John Huntsman, Tom Williams, Phil Kiko, Doug Hubert, Marc Burr, Steve Moore, Jim Ritchie, Charles Durant, Gary Johnston, James Koppel, Joe Harlan, and Gary Friedt.

THANK YOU, RAIDER NATION!



On April 13, 2023, the Mount Union community showed up, showed out, and made big things happen by giving back during our sixth annual day of giving, Raiders Give!



1,014

Generous Donors

\$360,685

Dollars raised

\$200,000

Trustee Challenge Unlocked

MISSED #RAIDERSGIVE?

You can still invest in the lives and educational experiences of current and future students with a special gift to The Mount Union Fund today at giving.mountunion.edu.

Rachel Boyce Lang International Belgium, France, and The



In 2006, the Rachel Boyce Lang Foundation generously established an endowed fund that reinstated Mount Union's international choir tour after nearly three decades of purely domestic travel.

Since then, Mount Union alumni and friends have had the opportunity to partake in the trip to experience breathtaking sights and sounds across the world.

The 2023 iteration of the tour featured an exciting 13-day trip in May with stops in Amsterdam, Bruges, and Paris.



al Choir Tour 2023 e Netherlands

MOUNT  UNION

Women

Celebrating 90 Years!

The year 2023 marks the 90-year Anniversary of Mount Union Women! Since its start in 1933, the organization has been supporting the education of women at Mount Union, and we've been giving out scholarships since 1962.

As we celebrate this milestone, the current board of directors would like to thank those who have given their time, knowledge, skills and money to support the organization and our scholarship program over the years. A huge thank you goes out to our members, both past and present, scholarship recipients, and everyone who has ever made a concession stand purchase at a home football game. All of you have played an important part in allowing us to carry on this legacy!



Deaths

1940s

Arlene (Kemery '49) Akerman of Beaver, Ohio passed away on January 30, 2023.

Dwight Hayes '46 of Macedonia, Ohio passed away on October 22, 2022.

Marjorie (Stroup '40) James of Magnolia, Ohio passed away on January 19, 2023.

1950s

Jane (Mackey '56) Barrett of North Canton, Ohio passed away on March 3, 2023.

Richard Beck '57 of Canton, Ohio passed away on April 10, 2023.

James Bittner '58 of Moorpark, California passed away on February 7, 2023.

Joseph Check '55 of Canal Fulton, Ohio passed away on November 27, 2022.

Patricia (Unkefer '59) Conti of Alliance, Ohio passed away on December 19, 2022.

J. Thomas Cope '54 of Salem, Ohio passed away on March 24, 2023.

William Gordon '53 of Emlenton, Pennsylvania passed away on March 21, 2023.

Eugene Heston '53 of Akron, Ohio passed away on March 21, 2023.

William Kuehn '54 of Sandy, Utah passed away on April 11, 2023.

Ray Pucci '52 of North Canton, Ohio passed away on November 9, 2022.

Elizabeth (Sunday '51) Thorpe of Alliance, Ohio passed away on December 17, 2022.

1960s

Robert Amor '64 of Garrettsville, Ohio passed away on December 10, 2022.

James Anderson '60 of North Canton, Ohio passed away on February 26, 2023.

Jeffrey Ball '64 of Ashtabula, Ohio passed away on October 30, 2022.

Autumn (Hoover '64) Burdette of Canfield, Ohio passed away on February 25, 2023.

Patricia (Dreyer '63) Daily of Harlingen, Texas passed away on December 25, 2022.

Elizabeth (West '64) Davidson of Tempe, Arizona passed away on January 28, 2023.

Sandra (Zimmerman '60) Ewing of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio passed away on December 22, 2022.

Lawrence Frank '63 of Alliance, Ohio passed away on December 14, 2022.

Richard Harrold '65 of Columbus, Ohio passed away on October 18, 2022.

Sharon (Keefe '67) Henry of New Braunfel, Texas passed away on March 23, 2023.

Alan Porter '61 of Wilmington, North Carolina passed away on January 9, 2023.

Judith (Jolley '68) Ramsay of Lexington, Kentucky passed away on April 22, 2023.

Jeannine (Draper '69) Rowe of Sebring, Ohio passed away on April 11, 2023.

William Schumann '64 of Westerville, Ohio passed away on January 15, 2023.

LaRue (Emerson '62) Sisak of Austin, Texas passed away on February 15, 2023.

Claire (Steineck '61) Springer of Alliance, Ohio passed away on October 29, 2022.

Daniel Treloar III '67 of Jeannette, Pennsylvania passed away on December 7, 2022.

Lynne (Boyd '61) Unkefer of Minerva, Ohio passed away on January 26, 2023.

1970s

Linda (Robellard '72) Anderson of Amsterdam, Ohio passed away on March 16, 2023.

Thomas Briggie '73 of Miami, Florida passed away on December 11, 2022.

William Brust '70 of Fort Mill, South Carolina passed away on October 21, 2022.

Julie (Zamagias '77) Clapper of Alliance, Ohio passed away on November 6, 2022.

Denise Deal '78 of Navarre, Ohio passed away on October 29, 2022.

Mount Union Employees

Lloyd Davidson

Lloyd Davidson of Alliance, Ohio passed away on December 27, 2022. He was the director of food service at Mount Union for 34 years.



William Markley

William Markley of Alliance, Ohio passed away on March 16, 2023. He was a mathematics professor for 39 years and the first soccer coach in Mount Union history.



Rudy Sharkey

Rudy Sharkey of Barberton, Ohio passed away on April 21, 2023. He was member of the football coaching staff for several national championships.



Richard Harr '75 of Silver Lake, Ohio passed away on November 11, 2022. Read more about Richard on page 24.

Joey Henderson '76 of North Canton, Ohio passed away on January 9, 2023.

Christine (Green '75) Keller of Montgomery, Texas passed away on April 4, 2023.

Mark Nurnberger '75 of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania passed away on January 9, 2023.

Frederick Snowden '76 of Alliance, Ohio passed away on February 28, 2023.

David Vernon '72 of Campbell, Ohio passed away on May 7, 2023.

1980s

Tommy Akers '82 of Las Vegas, Nevada passed away on November 26, 2022.

Suzanne (Gross '85) Hatch of Columbus, Ohio passed away on March 8, 2023.

John Hopper '80 of Bluffton, South Carolina passed away on March 14, 2023.

Patricia Whiteman '85 of Santa Monica, California passed away on December 3, 2022.

1990s

John Peaspanen '92 of Winston Salem, North Carolina passed away on January 6, 2023.

Brian Reali '94 of Akron, Ohio passed away on March 21, 2023.

Franklin Walizer

Franklin Walizer of Sebring, Ohio passed away on January 29, 2023. He worked at Mount Union in the fleet and grounds department until his retirement.



2000s

Tracy (Kennedy '00) McDaniel of Sebring, Ohio passed away on January 5, 2023.

Friends

Vincent Amato of Chesterland, Ohio passed away on January 1, 2023. He attended in the late 1960s.

Charles Calhoun, spouse of **Evelyn (Higbie '65) Calhoun**, of Uniontown, Ohio passed away on March 20, 2022.

Frederic (Fritz) Corey, spouse of **Joanne (Donaldson '50) Corey**, of Davis, West Virginia passed away on July 6, 2022.

Wayne Denny of Alliance, Ohio passed away on January 16, 2023. He attended in the early 1960s.

Andrew Deuble of North Canton, Ohio passed away on November 11, 2022. He was vice president and board member of the George H. Deuble Foundation in North Canton, OH.

Richard Fry of Minerva, Ohio passed away on February 25, 2023. He attended in the late 1950s.

Nancy (Wolfe) Gaige of Marshall, Michigan passed away on December 30, 2022. She attended in the mid-1950s.

Sally Galieta of Northridge, California passed away on January 10, 2023. She was the spouse of the late **Spartico Galieta '55**.

Robert Watson

Robert Watson of Strongsville, Ohio passed away on January 7, 2023. He worked at Mount Union as a dean for four years.



Helen (Hannawalt) Harris of New Philadelphia, Ohio passed away on November 29, 2022. She attended in the early 1950s.

Jack Howells of Salem, Ohio passed away on May 7, 2023. He attended in the mid-1950s.

Thomas Kingsley of Youngstown, Ohio passed away on November 16, 2022. He attended in the mid-1970s.

Marilyn (Steiner) Leyva of Las Cruces, New Mexico passed away on November 2, 2022. She attended in the mid-1960s.

Josephine (Rich) Pietrocola of Alliance, Ohio passed away on March 26, 2023. She was the mother-in-law of **Craig '89 Unckrich** and grandmother of **Corey '13** and **Michael '18 Unckrich**.

James Ramser of Alliance, Ohio passed away on April 8, 2023. He attended in the late 1950s.

William Saltsman of Sebring, Ohio passed away on March 18, 2023. He attended in the early 1940s.

Charles Ketcham '49

Charles Ketcham '49 of Lexington, Massachusetts passed away on April 15, 2023. He was a World War II veteran and chaplain at Allegheny College for 31 years. He was also the son of late Mount Union President Charles Burgess Ketcham.



Helen (Wright '53) Farnham

Helen (Wright '53) Farnham of Medina, Ohio passed away on November 15, 2022. She was a member of the Forever Mount Society, The 1846 Society, and along with her husband, Edward '54, endowed the Dr. Edward L. and Helen (Wright) Farnham Scholarship for students pursuing careers in the sciences.



THE INSPIRATION

THE VEALE FOUNDATION HONORS RICHARD HARR '75 AND GALE (ROBERTS)

“Oh, how I hated you so” were the first words **Gale Roberts '77** said to **Richard Harr '75** at her freshman mixer on campus in 1973. Gale was from Struthers, Ohio, and when she found out Richard was a graduate of and basketball player at her rival high school in Boardman, she could not mask her disdain. Less than a week later, they were dating.

“He proposed to me at the end of my sophomore year, but I said no,” Gale shared. “I told him I just wanted to finish out my college years.”

Richard proposed again during Gale’s senior year, and they were married in October 1977. Richard began his career in finance as a CPA for Peat, Marwick, Mitchell, and Co. while Gale went on to pursue her master’s and doctoral degrees in psychology – the beginnings of two incredible careers and a beautiful marriage.

Now, 45 years later, Gale remembers fondly her and Richard’s meeting on campus, their decades of memories as husband and wife and mom and dad to their children Brandon '06 and Brittany, and, most recently, their joy as grandparents to their four grandchildren.

Richard passed away peacefully on November 7, 2022, after a long battle with Parkinson’s and Lewy Body Dementia. Gale’s grief comes in waves, but she has been moved by the outpouring of support she has received from friends and family during this difficult time. One such display of support came in a rather unique way.

Shortly after Richard’s passing, The Veale Foundation, for whom he served on the Board of Trustees, reached out to Mount Union looking to memorialize Richard and honor Gale. The Foundation knew the Harr’s deep love for Mount Union by their own generosity to the University throughout the years. Ultimately, The Veale Foundation established a \$650,000 endowment fund to support the tuition of a student in the School of Business.



“The Veale Foundation Trustees know how formative the University of Mount Union was to both Rich and Gale. Rich demonstrated the importance of his alma mater by directing all his foundation gifts to Mount Union,” said Daniel Harrington, chairman of the Foundation’s Board of Trustees.

The Veale Foundation was established in 1964 by Harriett and Tinkham Veale to improve the quality of life for the residents primarily located in Northeastern Ohio. To fulfill this mission, The Veale Foundation is committed to supporting charitable causes involved in education, human and social services, civic and community, and healthcare. After retiring from a successful career in finance, most recently at HTV Industries of Pepper Pike, Richard served as a trustee of The Veale Foundation for several years.

“Rich was an important and valued team member, and we are proud to provide this scholarship in memory of him and in honor of Gale to make a meaningful impact on students at Mount Union,” said Harrington.

BEHIND THE GIFT

BERTS '77) HARR WITH A FULL-TUITION ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

After learning the details of the Foundation's gift, Gale was moved. "It is just so generous. I was and am completely overwhelmed by this act of kindness," she shared. "Richard would be so honored and happy."

Gale said her and Richard's own giving to Mount Union throughout the years was inspired by Richard's high regard for his favorite professor.

"Hugh Pinney had a tremendous influence on Richard — he had that effect on a lot of students," said Gale. "I wish I could put my finger on it. I think he really empowered them and made them feel confident in their abilities."

Gale is grateful for the friendships she and Richard made during each of their four years and how they have carried on throughout many years to today.

"You meet so many different people from so many different backgrounds, families, religions, lifestyles. Mount Union expanded both our worlds," she said. "We have lifelong friends from our time there. As life



goes on, you might not see them as often, but the special thing about those friends is that, when you do see them, you pick right back up where you left off."

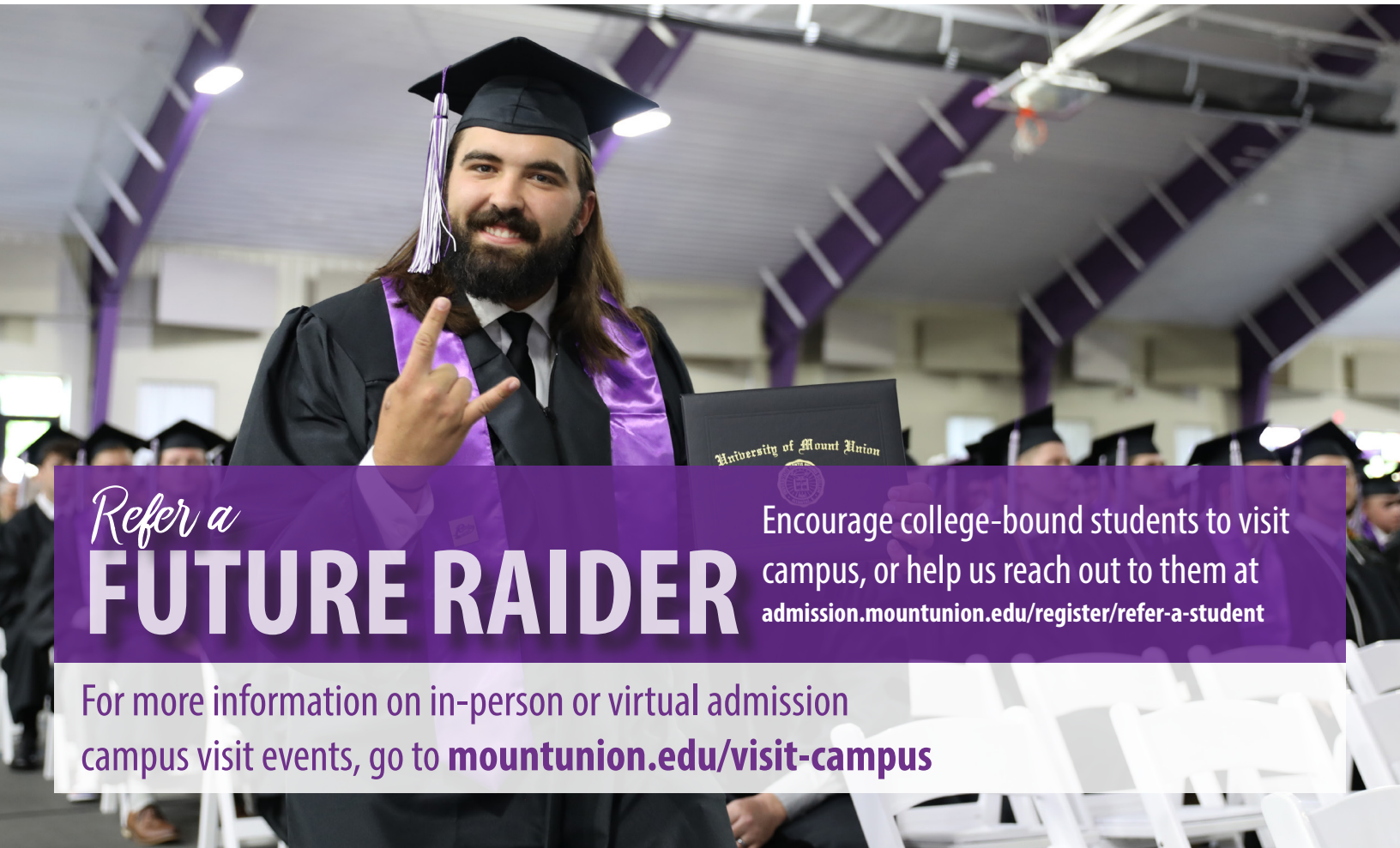
The Richard K. and Gale A. Harr Endowed Scholarship Fund will be offered to students for the first time in the fall of 2024.

"We hope that the scholarship will have as much of an impact on the University of Mount Union as Rich had on the Foundation," said Harrington. "Our trustees believe that the gift will allow the University of Mount Union to attract and maintain students of Rich Harr's caliber who will have a positive influence on the local community and world."



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1972 Clark Ave.
Alliance, OH 44601



Refer a
FUTURE RAIDER

Encourage college-bound students to visit campus, or help us reach out to them at admission.mountunion.edu/register/refer-a-student

For more information on in-person or virtual admission campus visit events, go to mountunion.edu/visit-campus